

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-10 SSC-01 AID-20 IO-14

CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

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P R 251222Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7708

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMCONSUL UDORN

AMCONSUL SONGKHLA

DIA WASHDC

DEA HQS WASHDC

USSAG NKP THAI

13TH ADVON UDORN THAI

CINCPAC CAMP SMITH HAWAII

S E C R E T BANGKOK 16643

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PGOV, PINT, TH, PINR

SUBJECT : BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON NEW CONSTITUTIONAL
DRAFTING COMMITTEE

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REF: A. BANGKOK 16205

B. BANGKOK 15777

1. JUSTICE MINISTER PRAKOB HUTASINGHA, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE, ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 24 THE NAMES OF THE OTHER 17 COMMITTEE MEMBERS. THEY INCLUDE THREE JOURNALISTS, THREE EDUCATORS, EMINENT JURISTS AND CIVIL SERVANTS. SOME OF THESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ON PREVIOUS CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEES. MOST ARE PUBLICLY KNOWN FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT. MANY HAVE CONNECTIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER SANYA THAMMASAK OR THE KING. WHILE OTHER SANYA GOVERNMENT APPOINTEES STRESS A FINE MIX OF CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PERSONALITIES, THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE HAS BUT ONE MILITARY OFFICER. THE COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO COMPLETE ITS WORK WITHIN THREE TO SIX MONTHS.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS BRIEF BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON THE INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED TO THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE:
CHAIRMAN: PRAKOB HUTASINGHA, MINISTER OF JUSTICE, (REF A)
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: KAMOL WANNAPRAPHA, MINISTER OF INTERIOR (REF A)
SECRETARY: PAISAL KUMALVISAI
ASSISTANT SECRETARY: AKRATHORN CHULARATANA

MEMBERS:

AMORN CHANTARASOMBOON: ONE OF THE 22 COMMITTEEMEN ON THE THANOM GOVERNMENT'S CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE. HS IS A WILL KNOWN THAI LEGALIST WHO RECEIVED A DOCTORATE IN INTERNATIONAL LAW FROM PARIS UNIVERSITY. HE WAS APPOINTED THAI DELEGATE TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL IN APRIL 1973.

ANEK SITTIPRASERT: RECENTLY ASSUMED THE POSITION OF GOVERNOR OF UDORN PROVINCE. PREVIOUS TO THAT HE WAS DEPUTY RECTOR AT THE DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION COLLEGE IN BANGKOK. A YOUNG GOVERNOR AT 44, HE HAS A REPUTATION AS A COMPETENT AND RESPECTED CIVIL SERVANT.

DR. CHAIANANT SAMUTAVANICH: LECTURER OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AT THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY AND INSTRUCTOR AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION (NIDA). HE RECEIVED A DOCTORATE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE FROM WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY IN 1971. HE WAS ONE OF THE SIGNERS OF THE

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EARLY CONSTITUTION MOVEMENT PETITION (REF B).
CHITTI TINGSAPAT: DEAN OF THE THAMMASAT LAW FACULTY, FORMERLY A CHIEF JUSTICE AND KNOWN FOR HIS OPPOSITION TO NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECREE 299 WHICH WOULD HAVE COMPROMISED THE INTEGRITY OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM.
M.R. KUKRIT PRAMOJ: EDITOR AND PUBLISHER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS "SIAM RATH" NEWSPAPER AND A FAVORED SPEAKER ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES. KUKRIT, A WITTY GADFLY, IS KNOWN

FOR HIS ARTICLES CRITICIZING THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT.
MANOON BORISUT: NOTED EX-CIVIL SERVANT WHO ###

###BACKGROUND, PREVIOUSLY ELECTED TO
PARLIAMENT IN THE 1930S, AND APPOINTED DEPUTY MINISTER
OF AGRICULTURE IN 1969 AFTER RETIRING FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE.
HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE WHICH WROTE
THE 1968 CONSTITUTION.
OSOT KOSIN: (REF A)
PONGPEN SAKUNTAPHAI: CHULALONGKORN PROFESSOR.
DR. PRAMOJ NAKORNTARP: THAMASSAT PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS.
HE CONTRIBUTES ARTICLES TO THE LIBERAL "SOCIAL SCIENCE
REVIEW MONTHLY." EDUCATED AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY, HE WAS
ONE OF THE ISGNS OF THE EARLY CONSTITUTION MOVEMENT
PETITION (REF B).
SANSERN KRAICHITTI: FIRST RATE AUTHORITY ON JUDICIAL
MATTERS, FORMER CHIEF JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT, AND A 1956
AND 1973 LEADER GRANTEE. FOR MANY YEARS HE WAS SECRETARY
GENERAL OF THE THAI BAR ASSOCIATION.
SAVIET PIEMPONGSARN: LONG TIME INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF
PARLIAMENT FROM RAYONG PROVINCE. HE IS A PART OWNER NAD
EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER "PRACHATHIPATAI" (DEMOCRACY). HE
ONCE SERVED AS DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE.
SAMPHOP HOTRAKITCH: NEWLY APPOINTED DEPUTY MINISTER OF
JUSTICE.
GENERAL SURAKIT MAIYALAP: (REF A).
SUMALEE VIRAVAIYA: STAFF WRITER AND COLUMNIST FOR THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE "BANGKOK POST" AND "BANGKOK WOULD"
NEWSPAPERS AND THE ONLY WOMAN ON THE COMMITTEE. SHE IS
NOTED FOR HE OUTSPOKEN SRITICISM OF THE PREVIOUS
GOVERNMENT AND WAS RECENTLY FINED FOR AN ARTICLE
CRITICAL OF THE JUSTICE MINISTRY.

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EM COMMENT: THE CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE IS ESPECTED
TO HARK BACK TO THE 1949 CONSTITUTION WHICH PROVIDED
GREATER CIVILIAN CONTROL OVER THE GOVERNMENT THAN THE
OTHER EIGHT SUCH DOCUMENTS IN THAI HISTORY SINCE 1933. THEIR
TASK I FORMIDABLE AND THEY ARE UNDER A STRICT DEADLINE
WHICH MAY MEAN THAT THOSE CABINET MEMBERS APPOINTED TO
THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO DEVOTE THEIR
FULL ENERGIES TO THEIR RESPECTIVE MINISTRIES. MUCH OF THE
PRESTIGE OF THE SANYA GOVERNMENT, AND LESS DIRECTLY OF THE
KING, RIDES ON THE DOCUMENT THAT THIS COMMITTEE WILL PRODUCE.
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